

WE CLAIM:

1. A device management system for use with a computer network, the system comprising:

- 5 a server configured to execute a management application, the server being configured to connect to the network; and
- a device configured to announce its presence to the management application on the server upon connection of the device to the network.

- 10 2. The system of claim 1, further including an agent/codelet pair including an agent and a codelet, wherein the device is configured to execute the codelet and the management application is configured to execute the agent, and the agent and codelet are configured to communicate with each other via the network to achieve a predetermined function.

- 15 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the agent/codelet pair are preinstalled on the device prior to installation of the device on the network.

- 20 4. The system of claim 2, wherein the device is configured to upload the agent to the management application, after announcing its presence to the management application.

- 25 5. The system of claim 2, wherein the management application is configured to contact an agent/codelet source and download a new version of the agent/codelet pair.

6. The system of claim 5, whereupon after downloading a new version of the agent to the management server, the management application upgrades the agent stored on the management server and the codelet stored on the device.

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7. The system of claim 1, wherein, in response to a command from a user, the management application is configured to adjust settings on the device.

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8. The system of claim 7, wherein the management application is configured to adjust the settings on the device by adding, deleting or upgrading a codelet on the device.

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9. The system of claim 1, wherein the management application is configured to enable a user to set a policy setting that governs an operation on the device.

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10. The system of claim 9, wherein the policy setting relates to an operation selected from a group consisting of addition, deletion, and upgrade of a codelet on the device.

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11. The system of claim 1, wherein in response to a command from a user, the management application is configured to subscribe to notifications of changes to a codelet on the device.

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12. The system of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of devices configured to connect to the network and communicate with the management application, wherein in response to a command from a user, the management application is configured to batch configure a set of the plurality of devices.

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13. The system of claim 1, wherein in response to a command from a user, the management application is configured to query the device for settings, and to display those settings to the user.

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14. The system of claim 13, wherein the management application is configured to apply a transformation rule to determine a subset of devices having a user-requested parameter, and display the settings of the subset of devices to the user.

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15. The system of claim 14, wherein the transformation rule is selected from the group consisting of consolidate, except, coalesce, and exclude a user-requested parameter.

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19. A device management system for use with a computer network, the system comprising:

a management server configured to execute a management application, the management server being configured to connect to the network; and

5 a device configured to connect to the network and communicate with the management application, the device including an embedded server and at least one agent/codelet pair having an agent and a codelet, wherein the embedded server is configured to automatically upload the agent to the management application of the management server;

10 wherein the management application is configured to install the agent at the management server; and

wherein, after installation of the agent at the management server, the agent and the codelet are configured to communicate with each other to achieve a predetermined functionality.

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20. A method for managing one or more devices connected to a computer network, the method comprising:

in response to connection of a device to the network, sending a message
20 from an embedded server on the device to a management application on a management server via a well-known address, thereby announcing the presence of the device on the network.

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21. The method of claim 20, further comprising, preconfiguring the device with an agent/codelet pair.

5 22. The method of claim 21, further comprising, sending the agent from the device to the management server.

10 23. The method of claim 22, further comprising setting a policy from the management application governing codelet operations on the device.

15 24. The method of claim 22, further comprising subscribing from the management application for notifications of codelet changes on the device.

25. A method for managing devices on a computer network, the system comprising:

20 connecting a device to a network, the device including an embedded server and at least one agent/codelet pair having an agent and a codelet, wherein the embedded server is configured to automatically upload the agent of the agent/codelet pair to a management application of a management server connected to the network;

sending the agent from the device to the management server;

25 installing the agent at the management server;

communicating between the agent installed at the management server and the codelet on the device.

26. A program storage apparatus readable by a machine, the storage apparatus tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for use in utilizing a print service, the method comprising:

- in response to connection of a device to a network, sending a message
5 from an embedded server on the device to a management application on a management server via a well-known address, thereby announcing the presence of the device on the network.

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